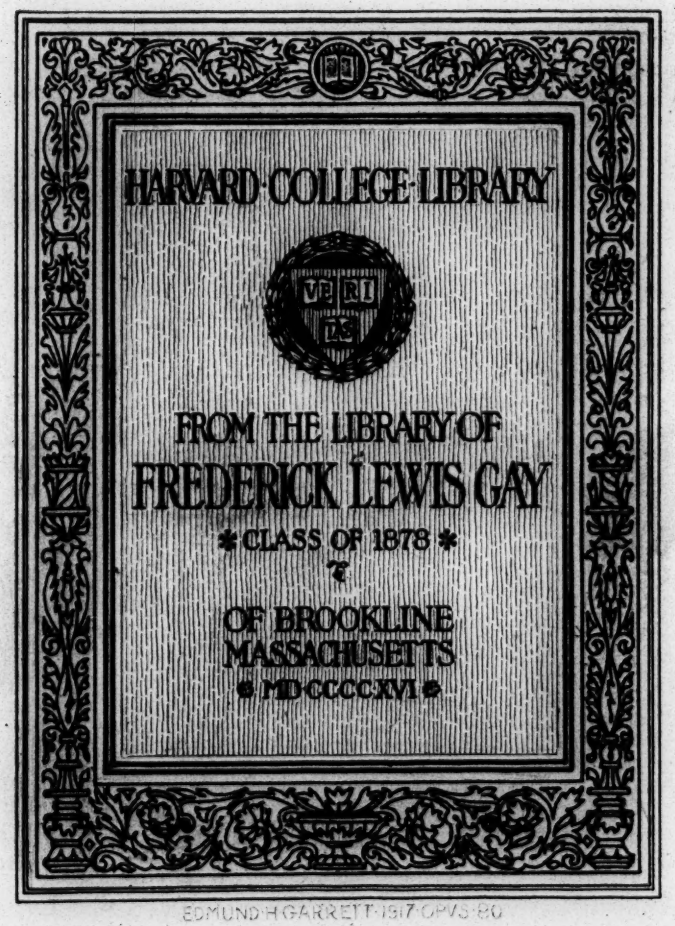

EDMUND H GARRETT 1917 OPUS 80

SIXTEENE PROPOSITIONS in Parliament.

Touching the manner and forme for Church Governement, by Biſhops and the Clergie of this Kingdome.

Whereunto is added.

The opinion of the Engliſh Doctors and Divines at the Synod at *Dort*, Concerning Epiſcopacy and Lay-Elders.

Alſo the Names of 14. Divines more which are Added to the Synod by the Houſe of PARLIAMENT.

With an Order by the Lords and Commons in Parliament, touching the Governement of the Church.

Hen. Elſing. Cler. Parl. D. Com.

June 8. London, Printed for *I. T.* 1642.

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JUNE 1, 1916

THE

ORDER

For Church-Government Read in the House of COMMONS. 1642.

Imprimis

EVery severall Shire of England and Wales, to be a severall Circuite or Dioceſſe, for the Eccleſiaſticke Iuriſdiction, excepting Yorkeſhire which is to be divided into three.

II.

A Conſtant Presbyterie of Twelve choyſe Divines to be ſelected in every Shire or Dioceſſe.

III.

A Conſtant Preſident to bee eſtabliſhed as a Biſhop over this Presbyterie.

IV.

This Biſhop in each Dioceſſe to ordaine, ſuſpend, deprive, degrade, excommunicate by : and with the conſent and aſſiſtance of ſeven Divines of his Presbyterie then preſent and not otherwiſe.

V.

The times of Ordination throughout the land to

be foure times every yeare, viz. the first of May, the first of August, the first of November, and the first of February.

VI.

Every Bishop constantly to reside within his Diocesse, in some one prime, or chiefe City or Towne within his Diocesse, as in particular.

VII.

Every Bishop to have one speciall particular Congregation, to be chosen out of the most convenient for distance of place, from his chiefe residence, and the Richest in value that may bee had: where he shall duely preach unlesse he be lawfully hindred, and then shall take care that his Cure be well supplyed by another.

VIII.

No Bishop shall remove or be translated from the Bishopricke which he shall first undertake.

IX.

Upon every death, or other avoidance of a Bishop, the King to grant a *Conge d'eire* to the whole Clergie of that Diocesse, and they to present three of the Presbyters aforesaid, and the King to choose and nominate whom he please of them.

X.

The first Presbyters of every shire to bee named by the Parliament, and afterwards upon the death or other avoidance of any Presbyter, the remaining Presbyters to choose another out of the Parish

Ministers

Ministers of that shire, and this to bee done within one month next after such death or avoidance.

XI.

No Bishop or Clergi-man to exercise or have any *Temporall Office*, or *secular employment*, but onely for the present, to hold and keepe the probate of wills, untill the *Parliament* shall otherwise resolve.

XII.

The Bishop once a yeare (at Midsummer) to summon a *Diocesan Synod*, there to heare, and by generall vote, to determine all such matter of scandall in Life and Doctrine among the Clergie-men, as shall be presented unto them.

XIII.

Every three yeares, a *Nationall Synod to be*, which for persons shall consist of all the Bishops in the Land, and of two *Presbiters* to be chosen by the rest out of each *Presbitery*, and of two *Clarkes* to be chosen out of every Diocesse, by the *Clergie* thereof.

XIV.

This *Nationall Synod* to make and ordaine *Canons* of the *Government* of the *Church*, but they not to bind untill they be confirmed by *Parliament*.

XV.

Every Bishop to have over and above the Benefice aforesaid, a certaine constant Rent allowed

and allotted proportionall to the Diocesse wherein he is to Officiate, that is to say, every *Presbyter* to have a constant yearely profit above his Benefice.

XVI.

As for the Revenue of the Bishops, Deanes, and Chapters, &c. a strict Survey to be taken of all their rents and profits, and the same to be represented at the beginning of our next Convention, and in the meane time no Lease to be renewed, nor Timber to be felled.

The opinion of the English Doctors and Divines at the Synod of Dort, *concerning Episcopacy and Lay-Elders.*

WE thought not fit to content our selves with warrantable silence, but consulting together what was fit to be done in delivering our opinions. We ioyntly conclude that howsever our Church Discipline had not been Synodically taxed, nor theirs avowed, yet it was cõvenient for us, (who were assured in our consciences that their Presbyteriall Parity, and Laicall Presbytery was repugnant to the Discipline established by the Apostles, and retained in our Church to declare our Iudgment.

We therefore professed and declared our vtter dissent in that point, and further shewed that by our Saviour a Parity of Ministers was never instituted, That Christ ordained Twelve Apostles, and seventy Disciples; That the Authority of those twelve was above

abo ue the other; That the Church preſerved this Order left by our Saviour. And therefore when the extraordinary Authority of the Apoſtles ceaſed, yet their ordinary Authority continued in Biſhops, who ſucceeded them who were by the Apoſtles themſelves left in the government of the Church to ordaine Miniſters, and to ſee that they who were ſo ordained ſhould preach no other Doctrin; That in an inferior degree the Miniſters who were governed by Biſhops ſucceeded the 70. Diſciples, That this Order hath been maintained in the Church, from the time of the Apoſtls. And herein we appealed to the Iudgment of Antiquity, or of any learned man now living, if any could ſpeak to the contrary: To this our exception and allegations, not one word was anſwered by any of the Synodiques either ſtrangers or Provincialls. Moreover, in our Private converſing with the moſt eminent of the Miniſtery there, we found divers times (upon occaſion of our declaring unto them the Order and manner of our Church Government) that they were more ready to deplore then defend their own eſtate, and wiſhed rather, then hoped to be made like the flouriſhing Church of England.

Ita Teſtamur.

Georgius Caleton. *Iohn Davenant.*
Gualter Balcanquall *Samuell Ward.*
Thomas Gond.

The

The Lords added 14. Divines to the Bill sent to them about the Assembly of Divines which were there.

Doctor *Hamond* of *Peethurst* in *Kent*.
Master *Lance* of Saint *Michaels Querne London*.
Doctor *Marsh* of Saint *Dunstones* in *Fleet street*.
Master *Earle* of *Wiltshire*.
Master *Gibbins* of *Waltham*.
Master *Prophet*.
Doctor *Westfield* Bishop of *Bristoll*.
Master *Pierce* of *Northampton*.
Master *Hodges* of *Kinsington*.
Master *Carter* of *Denton* in *Buckingham shire*.
Master *Lifur*, Vicar of *Sherly*.
Doctor *Iones* Prebend of *Winsor*.
Doctor *Story*.

An Order by the Lords and Commons in Parliament touching the Governement and Liturgie of the Church.

THe Lords and Commons doe declare, they intend a due and necessary reformation of the Governement and Liturgie of the Church, and to take away nothing in the one or the other, but what shall be evill, and justly offencive, or at least unnecessary and burthensome, and for the better effecting hereof speedily to have consultation with godly and learned Divines and because this will never of it selfe attaine the end sought therein, they will therefore use their utmost endeavours to establish Learned and Preaching Ministers, with a good and sufficient maintenance throughout the whole Kingdome, wherin many darke corners are miserably destitute of the meanes of salvation, and many poore Ministers want necessary provision.

Hen. Elsyng. Cler. Par. D. C.

FINIS.

*EC65.G798P.642s4

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1 June 1916